

# Two One-Man Parties Provide Amendment For House to Vote On

**Farquhar Oliver, U.F.O., South Grey, Will Virtually Condemn Governmental Apathy to Problems of Agriculture and Will Be Seconded by Earl Hutchison, Labor, Kenora**

The Ontario Legislature is going to have an amendment to vote on, after all, in connection with the debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

The Liberals would not submit one. The Progressives followed suit. But now, according to reports, it is the two smallest factions in the House—the U.F.O. and the Labor groups—two one-man parties, represented in the first instance by Farquhar Oliver, South Grey, and in the second case by Earl Hutchison, Kenora—who are going to muddy a bit the clear, smooth waters that have marked House proceedings between Government and Opposition since the 1931 session got under way.

Mr. Oliver, who is the next Opposition speaker to be heard in debate, will move, seconded by Mr. Hutchison, it is understood, an amendment condemning, in effect, the Government's apathy to agricultural problems and the Government's administration of its Agriculture Department.

Yesterday, Hon. Harry C. Nixon,

## PERMITS WILL OUST NATIVE WINERIES

**O.T.A. Selling Conditions Were Better Than Present, Is Claim**

### GRAPE GROWERS PROTEST

Opposition to the operation in this Province of the native-wine permit was thrown into the deliberations of the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature yesterday when the belief was expressed by grape growers from the Niagara Peninsula and the Essex Border as well as by Conservative members of the House that, unless some remedial action was taken by the Government, the "permit business" would eventually put the small wineries out of business.

"Nothing should be done," said Joseph Smith, prominent Saltfleet Township grower, "that will eliminate the forty-eight small wineries that are now operating in Ontario. If they are put out of business, then we growers will find ourselves in the hands of four men. And we will be squeezed dry. In my opinion, the smaller wineries put out a better product than the bigger ones. And last year we were able to get better prices, in most cases, from them."

## Forceful Tribute

For the first time since the session began, Hon. William Finlayson, Minister of Lands and Forests, was in his seat in the Legislature, yesterday.

Mr. Finlayson, who is slowly recovering from a serious illness, was given a great ovation when he rose during the debate to interpolate a brief explanation as to the policy of his department in connection with the proposed trans-Canada highway route across Ontario. A forceful tribute to Mr. Finlayson and his administration was paid by Hon. James Lyons, his predecessor in office.

"Whether the Minister (Mr. Finlayson) be sick in bed, or at his office desk," said he, "the development of Northern Ontario, under his direction, goes merrily on."

Progressive Leader, filed his "salary slash" resolution of recent Globe forecast. The resolution, seconded by D. M. Ross, North Oxford, reads as follows: "That in the opinion of this House, an era of drastic economy in the Provincial Administration should be at once inaugurated by a reduction in the salaries of Cabinet Ministers and Leader of the Opposition, indemnity of members, salaries of the Liquor Control Board and the salaries of the higher-paid officials of public service."

### Voice Opposition.

Further opposition, if not so strenuously voiced, was raised to the native-wine permit by Thomas J. Mahony, Conservative, South Wentworth; E. C. Graves, Conservative, St. Catharines; Dr. J. Cameron Wilson, Conservative, London; and by Ira L. Graham, Chairman of the Essex County Farm Bureau.

Mr. Mahony produced figures to show that during the months of December and November last wineries' sales throughout the Province had been 37 per cent. less than during the corresponding period of a year ago. Along with his criticism of the wine permit, Mr. Mahony laid down a strong plea for action that would permit Ontario wine manufacturers to "fortify" their wines in other ways than by the sugar process—the sole process permitted to them under the law as it stands at present.

### Fears for Future.

Mr. Graves expressed fears for the future of the small wineries; and Dr. Wilson went Mr. Mahony's figures one or two better with the statement that two wineries, outside the City of London, had each experienced a 60 per

cent. reduction in sales since the permit law came into effect.

"If wine was allowed to be sold as it was under the O.T.A.," contended Mr. Graham, "the grape growers would have a lot better chance to get along than they have at present." Mr. Graham drew a picture of ferryboats from Detroit tying up at the Windsor wharves, loaded with passengers looking for the wine that they used to buy without a permit, and now purchasing "whiskies" instead.

## CHECK IS SOUGHT ON CLAIM-STAKING

**Will Be Allowed for Mining Purposes Only**

Through an amendment to the Mining Act which Hon. Charles McCrea introduced to the Legislature yesterday, the Ontario Government seeks to bring an effective check on the practice, which has been steadily increasing in recent years, of claim-staking Northern properties for other than mineral purposes.

Since the Drury Government took the "discovery" clause out of the Mining Act, innumerable claims have been staked, Mr. McCrea afterward explained, without any discovery of minerals, and solely for the purpose of acquiring titles to property—some for real estate exploitation, some for tourist purposes, and others for reasons entirely removed from the field of prospecting, and from the spirit of the act.

The preventive legislation which the Minister brought down yesterday will empower the Mines Department to step in and cancel, by Order-in-Council, any claims that, having been staked for mining purposes, are put to other uses.

### Legislation Is Gratifying To Real Estate Board

Thursday, Feb. 19, marked the enactment of legislation that will have a far-reaching influence on real estate practice in Ontario. On that date a law came into force requiring all real estate brokers and salesmen to register with the Ontario Government. Much of the credit for this satisfactory legislation goes to the Toronto Real Estate Board, which has for years persistently urged the compulsory registration of brokers, and which has put on record its gratification over the Ontario Government's action. With the registration of all brokers, both the brokers themselves and the public are given a sane means of protection, and it is felt in official quarters that such a move will do much to stabilize and improve real estate transactions in Ontario.